Glenda Wiles

From: Dan Loeffler [dan.loeffler@cfc.umt.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, December 23, 2008 1:30 PM

To: Glenda Wiles

Subject: Growth policy repeal

Dear Commissioners,

I have been meaning to send this since the results of the election. I have been reading in the Republic that (some of) the commissioners consider the growth policy, due to the repeal, a 'done deal.' I beg you to reconsider.

As you know, the results from the vote show a margin of victory of \sim 1,300 votes, or \sim 6%. Please understand this is not nearly the kind of successful margin that deserves a 'done deal' stance. The victory was very slim, and only acquired after a lot of money was spent, deceptive advertising and propaganda dispensed, and what probably was the mobilization of the entire anti-growth policy voters.

When I went to vote at Lone Rock School I was confronted immediately outside the 100 foot buffer by repeal advocates. They were very direct, loud, and stood right in the way of traffic. What I'm getting at is their tactics up until and including that point were obtrusive and offensive.

Realizing there is the 2 year limit before zoning can be resurrected, I implore you, please DO NOT ABANDON THE ZONING EFFORT! It is far too important and I am confident that more people in the county would prefer a reasonable and smart growth policy thand none at all. There are too many of us that want a growth policy in place for you all to consider the election's disappointing results as the policy's 'done deal.'

Dan Loeffler
The University of Montana - Missoula & USDA Forest Service
Rocky Mountain Research Station
Phone: (406) 329-2120 Fax: (406) 543-2663